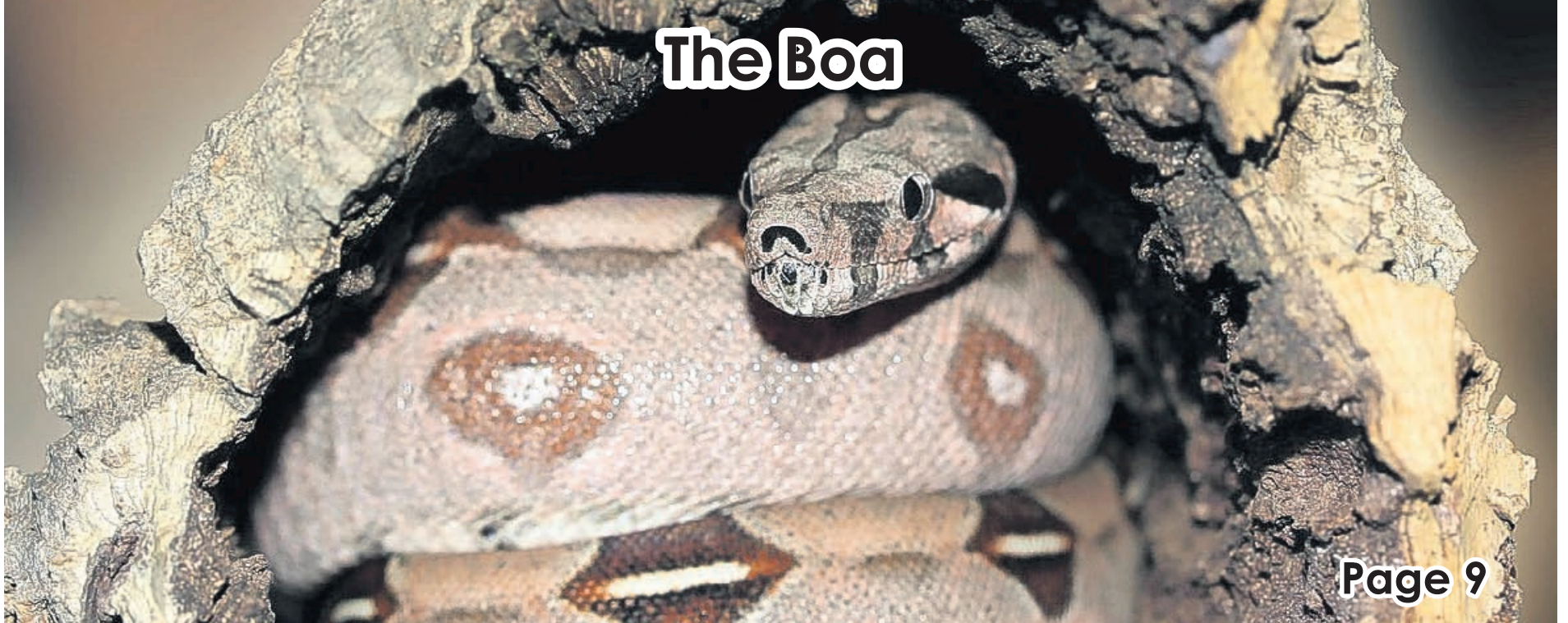




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ANGELA FLORES
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JEAN PAUL
SAXOPHONIST
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WEDNESDAY:

EDDIE KROON
SINGER 4:00 - 6:00pm

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm

KARAOKE 9:00 - 11:00pm

THURSDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO
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FRIDAY:

RICKY THOMAS
GUITARIST
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Student loans in default to be referred to debt collection, Education Department says

By ANNIE MA
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Education Department will begin collection next month on student loans that are in default, including the garnishing of wages for potentially millions of borrowers, officials said Monday. Currently, roughly 5.3 million borrowers are in default on their federal student loans. The Trump administration's announcement marks an end to a period of leniency that began during the COVID-19 pandemic. No federal student loans have been referred for collection since March 2020, including those in default. Under President Joe Biden, the Education Department tried multiple times to forgive millions of



The U.S. Department of Education building is seen in Washington, Dec. 3, 2024.

Associated Press

people's student loans, only to be stopped by courts. "American taxpayers will no longer be forced to serve as collateral for irresponsible student loan policies,"

Education Secretary Linda McMahon said. Beginning May 5, the department will begin involuntary collection through the Treasury Department's offset program, which

withholds payments from the government — including tax refunds, federal salaries and other benefits — from people with past-due debts to the government. After a 30-day notice, the department will also begin garnishing wages for borrowers in default. The decision to send debt to collections drew criticism from advocates.

"This is cruel, unnecessary and will further fan the flames of economic chaos for working families across this country," said Mike Pierce, executive director of the Student Borrower Protection Center. Already, many borrowers have been bracing for obligations coming due.

In 2020, President Donald Trump paused federal student loan payments and interest accrual as a temporary relief measure for student borrowers. The pause in payments was extended multiple times by the Biden administration through 2023, and a final grace period for loan repayments ended in October 2024. That meant tens of millions of Americans

had to start making payments again.

Borrowers who don't make payments for nine months go into default, which is reported on their credit scores and can go to collections. In addition to the borrowers already in default, around another 4 million are between 91 to 180 days late on their loan payments. Less than 40% of all borrowers are current on their student loans, department officials said. For borrowers in default, one step to avoid wage garnishment is to get into loan rehabilitation, said Betsy Mayotte, president of The Institute for Student Loan Advisors.

Borrowers need to ask their loan servicer to be placed into a loan rehabilitation program. Typically, servicers ask for proof of income and expenses to calculate a payment amount. Once a borrower has paid on time for nine months in a row, they are taken out of default, Mayotte said. A loan rehabilitation can only be done once. □



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Sarah Palin tells defamation trial jury that Times editorial 'kicked the oomph' out of her



Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin arrives to a Manhattan federal court in New York, Monday, April 21, 2025.

Associated Press

By LARRY NEUMEISTER
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin testified Monday at a defamation trial that an editorial about gun control in The

New York Times in 2017 was devastating and "kicked the oomph" out of her.

The former Republican candidate for vice president answered questions in Manhattan federal court at a trial of her libel claims against the newspaper. She seeks unspecified damages.

"This was the gamechanger," Palin said of the effect on her life after the newspaper in June 2017 published an editorial about gun control. "I felt defenseless. It just kicked the oomph right out of you."

The editorial was created after U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise, a Louisiana Republican, was wounded when a man with a history of anti-GOP activity opened fire on a congressional baseball team practice in Washington. □

Trump says gray skies for the White House Easter egg roll mean no worries about sunburn

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump welcomed tens of thousands of people Monday to the White House Easter egg roll, saying the overcast weather meant no one would have to worry about getting sunburned. He thanked the National Park Service for how "spiffy" everything looked.

More than 40,000 people were expected to participate, he said.

"Happy Easter to everyone," the president said, flanked on the White House balcony by his wife, first lady Melania Trump, and an Easter bunny mascot. "It was a beautiful day yesterday, and it's a beautiful day today. We don't have to worry about sunburn but ... it looks like it's not going to be raining."

The president and first lady visited the egg roll area, where he blew a gold-tone whistle stamped with the presidential seal to start a few races. They also spent time at a station where kids wrote cards to service members. Melania Trump later read "Bunny with a Big Heart" at a reading area. It's a story about a forgetful rabbit who gets injured, must stay in bed and learns to be kinder to his family.



President Donald Trump stands with the Easter bunny as he participates in the White House Easter Egg Roll on the South Lawn of the White House, Monday, April 21, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

Wooden spoon-wielding children competed against each other to guide hard-boiled eggs dyed pink, blue, yellow and green across a patch of the lawn to a finish line. In some cases, eggs were lobbed into the air instead of rolled across the grass, and at least one wooden spoon went flying through the air.

The participants included some of Trump's grandchildren — son Don Jr.'s children. At a special station promot-

ing next year's 250th anniversary of America's founding, kids and their families could sign a mini-Declaration of Independence or dress up as Founding Fathers. The day-long event featured multiple activity stations, live performances and story times.

Trump gave a "special thank you" to his wife for her work organizing the annual event. "I also want to thank the National Park Service," he said. "The job they do in making everything so beautiful and

spiffy, and I'm very difficult when it comes to that. I will tell you, very very difficult. ... They have done an incredible job. You just have to look around and see"

The American Egg Board, which has participated in the Easter egg roll for nearly 50 years and has been a lead sponsor for the past decade, donated 30,000 eggs that were hand-dyed by board staff and volunteers, said Emily Metz, board president and CEO.

She said the board understands the frustration felt by egg farmers and consumers over the egg shortage caused by the spread of avian flu and how expensive it's become to buy a dozen. Metz said the 2,500 dozen eggs given to the White House were small and medium, sizes not typically sold by retailers, so they will not further strain the supply or contribute to even higher prices. Nearly 9 million dozen eggs are sold daily in the United States, she said.

"We feel like we need to take a moment to celebrate where we can, and you cannot have Easter without eggs. And you cannot have the White House Easter egg roll without real eggs," Metz said in an interview.

Trump also included topics that had little to do with Easter in his brief remarks, like recruitment gains for the military and police and fire departments. He also said religion was "coming back to America."

The egg roll is one of the oldest White House traditions. It dates to 1878 and the presidency of Rutherford B. Hayes, who opened the lawn to children after Congress banned them from rolling eggs on the grounds of the Capitol. □

U.S. Supreme Court appears likely to uphold Obamacare's preventive care coverage mandate

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court seemed likely to uphold a key preventive-care provision of the Affordable Care Act in a case heard Monday.

Conservative justices Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett, along with the court's three liberals, appeared skeptical of arguments that Obamacare's process for deciding which services must be fully covered by private insurance is unconstitutional. The case could have big ramifications for the law's preventive care coverage requirements for an estimated 150 million Americans. Medications and services

that could be affected include statins to prevent heart disease, lung cancer screenings, HIV-prevention drugs and medication to lower the chance of breast cancer for high-risk women.

The plaintiffs argued that requirements to cover those medications and services are unconstitutional because a volunteer board of medical experts that recommended them should have been Senate-approved. The challengers have also raised religious and procedural objections to some requirements.

The Trump administration defended the mandate before the court, though President Donald Trump has been a critic of the law. The Justice

Department said board members don't need Senate approval because they can be removed by the health and human services secretary. A majority of the justices seemed inclined to side with the government. Kavanaugh said he didn't see indications in the law that the board was designed to have the kind of independent power that would require Senate approval, and Barrett questioned the plaintiff's apparently "maximalist" interpretation of the board's role.

"We don't just go around creating independent agencies. More often, we destroy independent agencies," said Justice Elena Kagan said about the court's prior



The Supreme Court is seen on Capitol Hill in Washington, Dec. 17, 2024.

Associated Press

opinions. Justices Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas seemed likely to side with the plaintiffs. And some suggested they could send the case

back to the conservative U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. That would likely leave unanswered questions about which medications and services remain covered. □



Nadine Menendez arrives to a federal courthouse in New York, Monday, April 21, 2025.

Associated Press

Wife of former U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez convicted in bribery scheme

By **LARRY NEUMEISTER**
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Nadine Menendez, the wife of former U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez, was convicted Monday of teaming up with her husband to accept bribes of cash, gold bars and a luxury car from three New Jersey men looking for help with their business dealings or legal troubles. The jury returned its verdict in the same federal courthouse in Manhattan where a different jury convicted Bob Menendez of many of the same charges last year. The Democrat is supposed to begin serving an 11-year prison term in June. The evidence shown to jurors over a three-week trial followed the timeline of the whirlwind romance between the couple that began in early 2018 and continued after criminal charges were brought against them in September 2023. Repeatedly during the trial, prosecutors said they were "partners in crime." During a 2022 raid on the couple's Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, home, FBI agents found nearly \$150,000 worth of gold bars and \$480,000 in cash stuffed in boots, shoeboxes and jackets. In the garage was a Mercedes-Benz convertible, also an alleged bribe. Both Nadine and Bob Menendez said they are innocent and never took any bribes.

Initially, they were to be tried together, along with the three businessmen, but Nadine Menendez's trial was postponed a year ago after she was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent surgery. Bob Menendez, 71, resigned from the Senate last August following his conviction. Before the charges were brought he had been chairman of the powerful Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Prosecutors accused Nadine Menendez of starting to facilitating bribes to the senator around the time that they began dating, before they married in the fall of 2020. At the time, she was in danger of losing her home in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, after missing nearly \$20,000 in mortgage payments, trial testimony showed. A longtime friend, Wael Hana, provided cash to save the home — and prosecutors said that in return, the senator began helping Hana preserve a business monopoly he had arranged with the Egyptian government to certify that imported meat met religious requirements. Nadine Menendez also needed a new car after her old one was destroyed when she struck and killed a man crossing a street. (She did not face charges in the crash). Prosecutors said a businessman, Jose Uribe, gave her a

Mercedes-Benz, and in return Bob Menendez used his clout to pressure the New Jersey attorney general's office to stop investigating some of Uribe's associates. Prosecutor said more cash and gold bribes were paid to the couple by Fred Daibes, a prominent real estate developer who prosecutors said wanted the senator to protect him from a criminal case he was facing in New Jersey. Prosecutors said Bob Menendez also helped Daibes secure a \$95 million investment from a Qatari investment fund. Nadine Menendez, 58, was described by prosecutors at her trial as crucial to the scheme, enabling the senator to communicate with the businessmen and Egyptian government officials. Besides his conviction on bribery charges, Bob Menendez also was convicted of acting as an agent for the Egyptian government. Prosecutors said that in return for some of the bribes, he ghostwrote a letter for Egyptian officials to give to his fellow senators to calm their concerns about human rights abuses and encourage them to lift a hold on \$300 million in military aid. Nadine Menendez's lawyer, Barry Coburn, had argued during his closing arguments to the jury that the evidence was insufficient for a conviction. □

Judge temporarily blocks NYC mayor from allowing ICE agents on Rikers Island jail



The Rikers Island jail complex stands in New York with the Manhattan skyline in the background June 20, 2014.

Associated Press

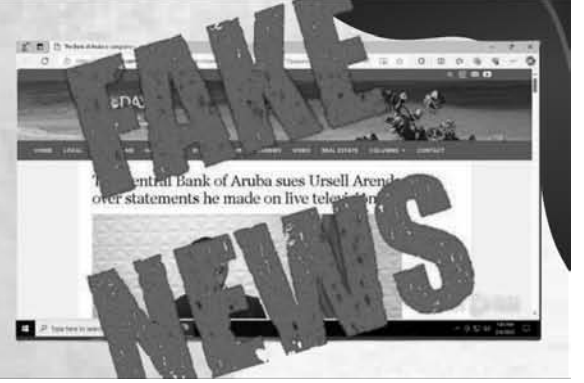
By **JAKE OFFENHARTZ**
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A New York judge has ordered city officials to temporarily halt a plan allowing federal immigration agents to operate within the Rikers Island jail complex ahead of a hearing later this week. In a written order Monday, Judge Mary Rosado barred the city from "taking any steps toward negotiating, signing, or implementing any Memorandum of Understanding with the federal government" before an April 25 hearing in a suit challenging the plan. That hearing will focus on a lawsuit brought last week by the New York City Council against Mayor Eric Adams that seeks to block his recent executive order permitting U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and other federal agencies to maintain office space at the jail complex. The suit accuses Adams, a Democrat, of entering into a "corrupt quid pro quo bargain" with the Trump administration in exchange for the Justice Department dropping criminal charges against him. Adams has repeatedly denied making any deal with the administration over the criminal case. He has said the presence of ICE and other federal agencies within the jail complex will allow them to assist in gang and drug-related investigations but that they would have no role in civil immigration enforcement. A spokesperson for Adams said the city would not execute any agreement with the Trump administration ahead of the hearing. Adams previously announced he would deputize his first deputy mayor, Randy Mastro, to handle all decision-making on the return of ICE to Rikers Island in order to "ensure there was never even the appearance of any conflict." Mastro said last week that discussions with the federal government over the plan were ongoing. ICE agents previously had a presence at the Rikers Island facility, which is on a hard-to-reach island in the East River. But they were effectively banned from operating there in 2014 under New York City's sanctuary laws limiting cooperation with immigration enforcement. □

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Pope Francis, Latin America's first pontiff who ministered with charm and humility, dies at 88

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis, history's first Latin American pontiff who charmed the world with his humility and concern for the poor but alienated conservatives over climate change and critiques of capitalism, died Monday. He was 88.

Bells tolled in church towers across Rome after the announcement, which was read out by Cardinal Kevin Farrell, the Vatican camerlengo, from the chapel of the Domus Santa Marta, where Francis lived.

"At 7:35 this morning, the Bishop of Rome, Francis, returned to the home of the Father. His entire life was dedicated to the service of the Lord and of his Church," Farrell said.

Francis entered Gemelli hospital on Feb. 14, 2025, for a respiratory crisis that developed into double pneumonia and, at 38 days, became the longest hospitalization of his papacy. Part of his right lung was removed in the late 1950s after a bout of pneumonia, and he suffered from chronic lung disease.

He emerged on Easter Sunday — his last public appearance, a day before his death — to bless thousands of people in St. Peter's Square, drawing wild cheers and applause.

The death now sets off a weeklong process of allowing the faithful to pay their final respects, first for Vatican officials in the Santa Marta chapel and then in St. Peter's for the general public, followed by a funeral and a conclave to elect a new pope.

From his election on March 13, 2013, the Argentine-born Jorge Mario Bergoglio



Pope Francis waves to the crowd during a procession, Saturday, Sept. 26, 2015, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

signaled a different papacy, embracing refugees and the downtrodden, especially following the troubled tenure of Pope Benedict XVI, who surprisingly resigned.

But conservatives grew increasingly upset with Francis' progressive bent, outreach to LGBTQ+ Catholics and crackdown on traditionalists. He badly botched a notorious case of clergy sexual abuse in 2018. The crowd-loving, globe-trotting pope also navigated the church through the coronavirus pandemic from a locked-down Vatican City, declaring it "has shown us that we cannot live without one another, or worse still, pitted against one another."

Elected on a mandate for reform

Francis was elected on a mandate to reform the Vatican bureaucracy and its finances, but he went further, shaking up the church itself without changing its core doctrine.

Asked about a purportedly gay priest, he famously responded, "Who am I to judge?" — a welcoming message to the LGBTQ+ community and those who felt shunned by the church. Francis changed church positions on the death penalty, declaring it inadmissible in all circumstances, and modified its stand on nuclear weapons by saying their possession was "immoral."

In other firsts, he approved an agreement with China on bishop nominations that had vexed the Vatican for decades, and charted new relations with the Muslim world by visiting the Arabian Peninsula and Iraq. But his real revolutionary change came in emphasizing the church should be a refuge for those on society's fringes: migrants, the poor, prisoners and outcasts.

Evoking St. Francis of Assisi, Francis lived in the Vatican hotel rather than the Apostolic Palace, wore his old orthotic shoes rather than

the traditional red loafers, and used compact cars.

If being the first Latin American and Jesuit pope wasn't enough, he was the first to name himself after St. Francis of Assisi, the 13th century friar known for personal simplicity, his message of peace, and care for society's outcasts and nature.

His first trip as pope was to the Italian island of Lampedusa, epicenter of Europe's migration crisis, and he consistently visited countries where Christians were persecuted.

Missteps on priestly sexual abuse

But over a year passed before Francis met survivors of priestly sexual abuse. Victims' groups questioned whether he understood the scope of the problem.

His papacy's greatest crisis came in 2018, when he discredited Chilean victims of abuse and stood by a bishop linked to their abuser, a notorious pedophile. Francis later invited the victims to the Vatican for

a personal mea culpa and summoned the leadership of the Chilean church to have them resign.

Another crisis erupted over ex-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, the retired archbishop of Washington and a counselor to three popes. Francis had sidelined McCarrick after an accusation he had molested a teenage altar boy in the 1970s. The Vatican's onetime U.S. ambassador, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano, still accused Francis of rehabilitating McCarrick early in his papacy. Francis eventually defrocked McCarrick after an investigation determined he sexually abused adults as well as minors.

Two popes in the Vatican Francis' election after Pope Benedict XVI's stunning decision to resign and retire — the first in 600 years — created the unprecedented reality of two popes on Vatican grounds. Despite the potentially uncomfortable shadow, Francis embraced Benedict as an elder statesman and adviser until his Dec. 31, 2022, death.

Francis didn't pursue the anti-abortion agenda of Benedict or St. John Paul II, although he starkly likened it to "hiring a hit man to resolve a problem."

But he reversed Benedict's signature liturgical legacy by reimposing restrictions on celebrating the Latin Mass. He said he was healing divisions, but conservatives and traditionalists blasted the move as an attack on them and the old liturgy.

Francis slowly shifted the balance of power from doctrinaire church leaders to more pastoral ones, appointments reflected in choosing cardinals who will elect his successor. □

U.N. researchers warn that Asian scam operations are spreading across the rest of the world

By **GRANT PECK**
Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Transnational organized crime groups in East and Southeast Asia are spreading their lucrative scam operations across the globe in response to increased crackdowns by authorities, according to a U.N. report issued on Monday.

For several years, scam compounds have proliferated in Southeast Asia, especially in border areas of Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar, as well as in the Philippines, shifting operations from site to site to stay a step ahead of the police.

More recently, scam centers that have bilked victims out of billions of dollars through false romantic plays, bogus investment pitches and illegal gambling schemes are now being reported operating as far afield as Africa and Latin America.

Asian crime syndicates have been expanding operations deeper into remote areas with lax law enforcement that are vulnerable to the influx, according to the report issued by the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime or UNODC. The report is titled "Inflection Point: Global Implications of Scam Centers, Underground Banking and Illicit Online Marketplaces in Southeast Asia."



Indonesian nationals who had worked at scam centers in Myanmar disembark their plane upon arrival from Thailand, at Soekarno-Hatta International Airport in Tangerang, Indonesia, March 18, 2025.

Associated Press

"This reflects both a natural expansion as the industry grows and seeks new ways and places to do business, but also a hedging against future risks should disruption continue and intensify in Southeast Asia," Benedikt Hofmann, UNODC's acting regional representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, said in a statement. UNODC estimates that hundreds of industrial-scale scam centers generate just under \$40 billion in annual profits.

The trend to hedge beyond

the region has been consistent with continued reports of crackdowns targeting Asian-led scam centers that have been found operating in Africa, South Asia, the Middle East and select Pacific islands, as well as related money laundering, people trafficking and recruitment services discovered in Europe, North America and South America.

In Africa, Nigeria has become a hot spot, with police raids in late 2024 and early 2025 leading to many arrests, including people from East

and Southeast Asia suspected of cryptocurrency and romance scams. Zambia and Angola have also busted Asian-linked cyberfraud operations.

In Latin America, the report says that it's "notable that Brazil has emerged as one country that has faced a growing set of challenges related to cyber-enabled fraud, online gambling, and related money laundering, with some linkages to criminal groups operating in Southeast Asia."

It also notes that in late

2023 in Peru, more than 40 Malaysians were rescued after being trafficked by a Taiwan-based gang known as the Red Dragon syndicate that forced them to commit cyber-enabled fraud.

The report also points to crackdowns on Asian-led scam centers in the Middle East and some Pacific islands.

Alarming, even as Asian-led groups have been expanding the geographical scope of their operations, the involvement of criminal groups from other parts of the world is also growing, the report says.

New online markets, money laundering networks, stolen data products, malware, artificial intelligence and deepfake technologies are laying the ground for the rise of crime as a service, the report says. These technological innovations facilitate conducting their businesses online and adapt to crackdowns.

"The convergence between the acceleration and professionalization of these operations on the one hand and their geographical expansion into new parts of the region and beyond on the other translates into a new intensity in the industry — one that governments need to be prepared to respond to," Hofmann says. □



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu attends his trial on corruption charges at the district court in Tel Aviv, Israel, Monday, April 21, 2025.

Associated Press

By **TIA GOLDENBERG**
Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — The head of Israel's internal security service on Monday accused Prime Minister

Benjamin Netanyahu of trying to exploit the power of the agency for political and personal gain through a litany of improper demands. His comments deepened a

Israel's domestic security chief accuses Netanyahu of making improper demands of him as rift deepens

showdown between the two men that has divided the nation.

In a submission to the Supreme Court, Shin Bet chief Ronen Bar wrote that he refused a request from Netanyahu to identify Israeli anti-government protesters and surveil their financial backers. Bar said he also was told to obey Netanyahu and not the courts in the event of a constitutional crisis. And he said there were attempts to force him to sign a document that would make it nearly impossible for Netanyahu to testify in his corruption trial because of security concerns, some-

thing he said he rejected doing.

Netanyahu's office called Bar's affidavit "full of lies."

The affidavit was the latest salvo in a deepening rift between Netanyahu and the Shin Bet, which monitors Palestinian militant groups and is seen as having played a major role in failing to prevent Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attacks that sparked the war in Gaza.

Netanyahu moved to fire Bar last month over what he said was a crisis of confidence surrounding Hamas' attacks. The step to dismiss Bar sparked an uproar in Is-

rael because it came as the agency is investigating ties between the Israeli leader's office and the Gulf Arab state of Qatar — a key mediator between Hamas and Israel over the war in Gaza. Critics say the firing is tainted by a conflict of interest meant to derail that probe, a charge Netanyahu denies. Israel's Supreme Court froze Bar's firing following multiple legal challenges against the move. In a hearing earlier this month, it called on the sides to reach a compromise on Bar's dismissal. The affidavit was submitted as part of deliberations on the firing. □



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Food culture in Aruba

(Oranjestad) - Like many other cultures, an important aspect of the Aruban cultural identity is our connection to food and food traditions. The local food traditions consist of a melting pot of different cultural and religious eating habits and dishes.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner The routine of breakfast, lunch and dinner on the island is one that does not completely follow a European or American routine, despite the major influences from these parts of the world on our culture and way of living. When it comes to the three important meals of the day, most of the Aruban population follows a Latin-American influenced routine.

Breakfast

Breakfast in Aruba is quite simple: a cup of coffee or tea, some bread, and sometimes an egg. Sometimes, due to the need of a quick “to-go” breakfast, you may also find many snack trucks and cafes that sell sandwiches, pastechis (meat pie), arepas and empanadas early in the morning.

Main Meal



The main meal is typically eaten in most households around noon or in the afternoon. This can consist of meat, fish, and chicken—stewed or fried—with funchi (polenta) or rice with stewed vegetables. Often, fried or boiled plantain or pan bati (Aruban pancake) is included. Stews are a staple in Aru-

ban cuisine and can are largely influenced by Latin-American and Latin/Afro-Caribbean Stews. Some of the more unique stews and soups from the ABC Islands* include sopi di bonchi cora (red kidney bean soup with pig tail), sopi mondongo (tripe soup), carni stoba (beef stew), comcomber stoba (West Indian gherkin stew) and much more.

Dinner Time

Dinner time can vary significantly from household to household. Unlike the U.S. or in Europe, dinner time typically does not consist of a whole (warm) meal. Instead, the evening “meal” can typically consist of something lighter, like a sandwich, though it is not uncommon to see leftovers from the main meal reheated and eaten again. Tea and coffee are often also served with the evening snack.

(Religious) Holidays



Christmas is probably the biggest global holiday, and every culture has its own spin on what their Christmas cuisine entails. In Aruba, our Christmas cuisine is again largely based on Latin-American influences, most notably from Venezuela. Ayacas and the famous pan di ham* are two crucial holiday dishes, along with stuffed turkey, roasted glazed ham topped with pineapples, arroz con pollo (rice and chicken) and potato salad, among other items. Traditional drinks include ponche crema (Aruban eggnog), chuculati pinda (hot chocolate with

peanut butter), and home-made fruit punch. Desserts include, bolo di pistachio (pistachio cake), bolo di cashupete (cashew cake), quesillo (flan), bolo preto (dark fruit cake), drigidek (gingerbread), pan boyo (bread cake) and more.

Snacks and tasty delights



Besides meals and dishes that are eaten on the dinner table, Aruba also has a food tradition that includes snacks and other tasty delights that you may easily find around the island.



These include, Saco*, basket, pastechi, kroket, deditos, Johnny cake and more. These snacks are usually sold at local snack trucks and cafes, often located on the side of the road. In the area of Tanki Leendert and Tanki flip, for example, there are many of these trucks parked on the side of the road and often open until late at night—offering tasty and filling snacks post night-life fun. □

*ABC Islands: Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao

*Pan di ham: Derived from the Venezuelan Pan de Jamon (rolled up bread with ham, raisins and olives)

*Saco: Saco literally means “bag”. Saco contains fried potatoes, plantains, chicken (and ribs) and a Johnny cake, served in a paper bag.

Source: Voeding, voedingsgewoonten en gerechten op Aruba (Nutrition, Food Traditions and Dishes on Aruba) by Biblioteca Nacional Aruba

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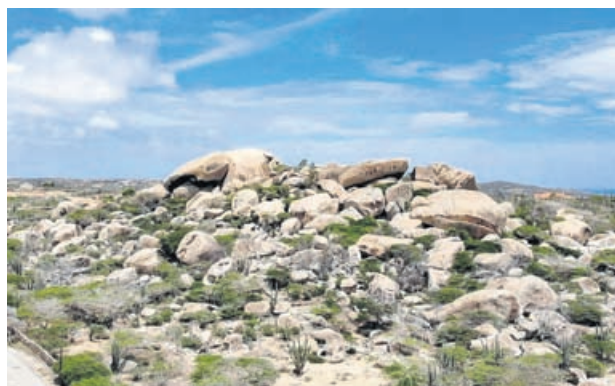
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Aruba's neighborhoods; the meaning behind their names



Just like any other country, Aruba has unique and beautifully named neighborhoods that all form a part of its culture and development. Many of these names have a historical background and meaning that teaches us about the island and its rich culture every day.

With this series, we want to take you on a journey of discovery, where you'll learn not only the beautiful names but the history behind it that gives it life and meaning.

Ayo

Ajo, or Ayo, is a word with Arawak-Indian origin.

A (or Ha) is an Indo-Antillean generalizing word. If you were to change a part of the word "Ayo", namely 'Yo', to 'Yu' and make 'Ayu', it would mean "white."

However, as we now know, the name of the neighborhood is 'Ayo'. The word 'Yo' stands for Yocahu, which is another word for 'creator' in Arawak/Taino and in the Papiamentu spoken today, 'Ayo' means 'bye'.

At Ayo, you can find some of the most well known rock formations. These formations became a well loved and visited attraction at Aruba that is held in high regards by both tourists and locals alike.

If you'd like to know more about the rock formations at Ayo, stay tuned for our article where we tell you all about its location and history.

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; A.

Alto Vista

This word combination can be roughly translated to a 'high point of view' and the neighborhood received this name from the Hill.

In the surrounding areas, Domingo Antonia Silvestre built his by his own means the very first chapel or church of Aruba. The walls of this church were made with rocks but the roof was made of dry corn stalks. The church was inaugurated by father Pablo Algemesi

If you'd like to know more about the Alto Vista Church's beautiful history, stay tuned for our article where we tell you all you need to know about it for when you visit it. □

This neighborhood's abbreviation is; AV.



Dining in? Try making a local favorite How to make "pan bati"

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever up for an Aruban snack, try making another Aruban classic appetizer called Pan Bati. Similar to a pancake both in appearance and cooking, this is a super easy meal that adults and children will both enjoy. Here's how to make it!

Ingredients:

2 cups of all purpose flour
 1 cup grams of fine cornmeal (we recommend the Harina PAN brand)
 2 tbsp baking powder
 1 1/3 cup of milk
 1 pinch of salt
 2 tbsp of granulated sugar
 Oil for cooking

Instructions:

Add all the dry ingredients in a bowl first, and stir until well mixed. Then add the milk and beat until reached a pancake-like consistency. If more moister is needed, add some water until reached desired consistency.

In a hot pan with oil, pour in enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan. Just like pancakes, flip the pan bati when one side turns golden brown. When your pan bati is ready, place on a plate and cover with a clean kitchen towel.



Traditionally, pan bati is cut in triangle pieces, and is often eaten as a side dish with soup, fried fish or stews. However, it is also casually enjoyed with some butter and cheese on top! □

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Blackstone Beach

(Oranjestad)—Named after its most recognizable feature, the Blackstone Beach almost represents the opposite of the typical Aruban beaches. For one, it has black sand and is covered in black smooth

stones. Secondly, it lies on the northern side of the island, away from the white sandy beaches of in the southern region. So, if you feel up for something different—or if it's opposite day, visit the Blackstone Beach.



Blackstone Beach shows the more natural side of Aruba: the stones that cover the beaches and the shape of it has been crafted for thousand years via volcanic eruptions, coral reef movements and wave activity of the rural northern part of the island.

Located further east to the Natural Bridge and Andicuri Beach, the Blackstone Beach is relatively easy to access. Once you get passed the Ayo Rock Formation, take the Andicuri road leading up to Andicuri Beach. There, you can park your car and take a 1km hike towards Blackstone Beach.



This beach forms part of the Arikok National Park and is therefore a site that is preserved. This is why it is also relatively untouched by commercial influences. Despite being called a beach, do note that it is **not advised to swim in the water**, as the current is very strong

and can easily stray you further in the wild ocean. However, you can still enjoy a spectacular view of the stones and the northern ocean that stretches out in front of the beach and take a picture with your friends or family! □

The Boa And what to do when encountering one

(Oranjestad)—If you have ever or will ever go off-roading on the island, you may encounter three types of snakes that are dominant on the island. Aruba is home to the Cascabel (rattlesnake), Santanero and Boa—the latter being an invasive species. Local perspective on the boa may help you understand what you need to do if you ever were to encounter one during your touring session on the island.

Boa (Boa constrictor)

Boas are Aruba's largest snakes. The longest Boa found on the island was slightly less than 3 m. Newborn Boas average 35 cm. Boas are not venomous but are what is called constrictor snakes; they kill by wrapping themselves around a prey and suffocating them. The most distinctive feature of a Boa is its pattern of dark brown


and tan blotches which become red toward the tail. The belly in white or cream colored with numerous black spots. Boas are excellent climbers and may be found in trees and cactus. Boas also hide in the leaves under bushes waiting to catch prey that pass. Boas catch their prey with their teeth and then constrict it in their coils. The Boa's diet consists of birds, lizards, rats, mice, and rabbits. Large Boas have been known to eat small goats and chickens. When threatened, Boas will hiss loudly. Boas are a non-native species and are invasive to the island, risking the population of native lizards and birds. The first Boas were reported on the island in 1999. Since that time they have been found across the entire island in all types of habitats.






Boas on the move again this spring




The Aruba Birdlife Conservation has recently informed on their Facebook page that with the raining season over, Boa Constrictors

are once again on the move to hunt for food. If you ever encounter a Boa, please do not approach it. Instead, please call the Arikok National Park, as they are experienced in handling Boas. □



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A Nighttime Brunch at Po-Ké Ono Marketplace – A Fresh Take on a Beloved Tradition

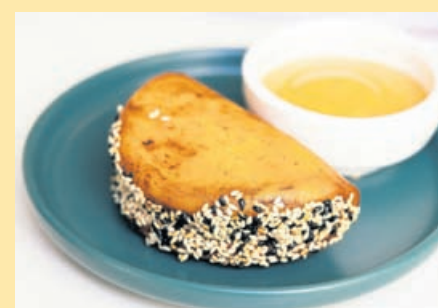
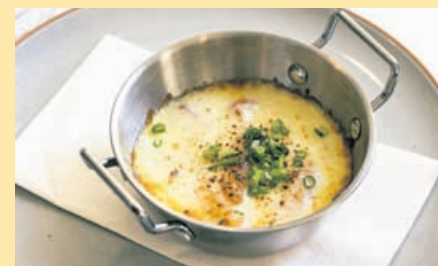


This April, Po-Ké Ono is turning brunch on its head with a bold new twist: a nighttime brunch experience at Renaissance Marketplace. On Friday, April 25th, guests are invited to discover Handpicked Favorites, a curated menu that blends the vibrant flavors of Asia and Hawaii into a relaxed and flavorful evening affair.

Unlike the traditional daytime brunch, this special event offers a more refined and intimate experience under the stars. For **\$65**, guests can explore a selection of carefully chosen dishes—each one available to enjoy up to three times. It's a unique approach designed to let you truly savor your favorites, without limits.

To elevate the evening even further, guests can add unlimited Mimosas or opt for Po-Ké Ono's signature **Al-b-no Cocktail Pitcher**, a refreshing white sangria with Asian influences, available for just **\$25**.

This isn't just brunch—it's a celebration of flavor, community, and creativity, set in one of Aruba's most vibrant locations. Whether you're a local foodie or a weekend visitor, this evening event is the perfect way to kick off **King's Day weekend** in style.



Join us:

Date: Friday, April 25th, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Location: Po-Ké Ono at Renaissance Marketplace

Reservations: +297 699 3982

Seating is limited, and the experience promises to be one to remember. Secure your spot today and discover why this is not your average brunch—it's Po-Ké Ono, after dark. ☐

Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Holiday Inn Beach Resort & Casino!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were respectfully honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.



The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassadors

Mr. Gerald and Mrs. Georgina Consolo from Fuquay Varina, North Carolina, USA.

Ms. Keyttin Silva, representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Holiday Inn Beach Resort & Casino bestowed the certificate

upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked Mr. and Mrs. Consolo for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the Mr. and Mrs. Consolo were:

- The breathtaking sunsets
- The silky white beaches
- The therapeutic warm waters
- "The wonderful people we meet every time we visit"
- "Every visit since 1987, the Holiday Inn staff has made us feel like a welcomed family member"

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Consolo for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". ☐

Aruba: the legend behind its name

(Oranjestad)—Most folkloric tales and legends in Aruba revolve around our indigenous ancestors, who came from mainland Venezuela, and discovered the island and made it into their new home. This particular legend tells the story of the birth of the Aruba name.

The legend follows the life of Arua, an indigenous Cacique originally from Aroa in the Falcon state in Venezuela in the year 50 AD. Arua had a son around the year 70 AD with his wife Shira, who they named Corobori. When Corobori was old enough, he joined his father on the usual boat trip to the islands of Curacao and Bonaire to gather salt.

On their way back to Mainland Venezuela, they were caught up in a heavy rain storm—a side effect from a passing, but far away, hurricane. Of course, because of the lack of motors and sail, their boat was left in the mercy of the heavy winds. After a while, the storm started to pass, and the clouds began to clear up. Finally able to see around them, the Cacique spotted land approximately an hour away. So, they started to row in that direction until they reached the coast.

Once they arrived on what they thought was Venezuela, they decided to stay the night and fix their kayak. The next morning, the Cacique ordered his son and a few warriors to go find any sign of population in the area: "Corobori," Arua said. "Don't come back without news. It's in your hands how long we stay here till we find our family. So, if you need to take a week to gather information, we will wait for you."

"Don't worry," Corobori replied. "As soon as we have any information, we will let you know." Armed with arrows and spears, backpacks filled with food and water containers, they set off. They climbed several small hills, but no sign of a village. They crossed different dry riverbeds, but no sign of anything. When the sun finally descended, they found themselves near a fairly tall hill and decided to climb it for a better view of a village. This hill was called Pan Dushi or Orcuyo, which today we call Hooiberg.

The next morning, they could clearly see that they have landed on an island, but an unfamiliar one at that. When Corobori went back to where his father was waiting, he told him the news: "Father Arua, you have just discovered an island, but it is not Curacao or Bonaire. Far in the south, we saw the big mountains of our homeland Venezuela, which we could have never seen on the other island. This leads us to believe we are on a new island. But that's not all. When the sun came up, we saw in the distance a glowing plain, which we think may be salt."

The Cacique was pleased to hear of his son's findings. He decided to stay a couple days on the newly-discovered island in search for salt. The next morning they ascended Hooiberg again and stayed to see if they could find nearby smoke, indicating an inhabitant village. But they found nothing. So they went back to their initial arrival settlement, now known as Santo Largo in Savaneta. The next morning they hiked along the Spaans Lagoen near the Mangel Halto Beach and reached the area of Bushiri. There, they boarded their kayaks and heading to what we know now as Malmok, where they found rocks of salt. After a couple days of exploring the island and gathering some salt rocks, they left for Venezuela, where they were reunited with their families.

Throughout the year, they travelled back and forth to Aruba, collecting salt. After a while they settled on the island, generations of families living along the coast. Corobori was the first indigenous inhabitant in our history to explore the entirety of the island.

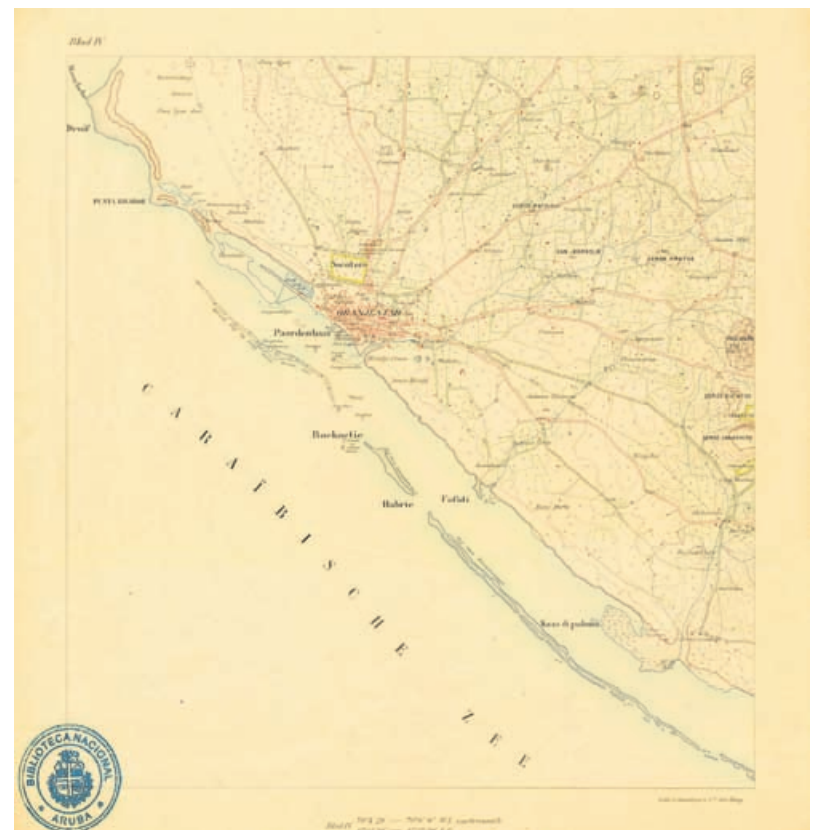
Arua, after decades as the leader of his tribe, spent his last days on the island. Having reached 80 years old, he called for his family on his death bed. In his hammock, he said: "My children, many years have passed, and I've asked my warrior to bring me back to the island so I can laid to rest. The God of living has given me the gift of life to see my son, grandchildren and great grandchildren. But now he is calling me home. Corobori, my torch is now passed to you. Guide our people, and be the leader you were always meant to become. If one day you leave my island, do not forget that it is also yours. This is my last wish: When I die, bury me in our maize plantation."

And so when the Cacique passed away, his wishes were granted and he was laid to rest in the area we now know as the Paradera Cemetery. Where he used to live, they built the Paradera Church.

And that is the tale of what inspired the Aruba name. In the generations that lived or travelled back and forth to the island, there were many familiar names*, like Guadiriki, a warrior who was there when the island got discovered and his son, whom he called Huliba; Corobori and his children, Corodori, Camacuri and Turibana, Masiduri; and Malmok, the 13-year-old boy who alerted the Cacique when the Caribes attacked.

Familiar names: all these names are familiar to Arubans, as these are the names of places and plants on the island. □

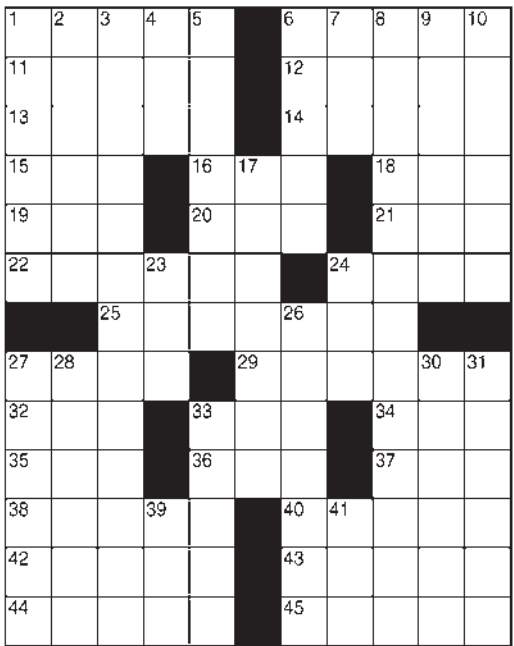
Source: Un storia di e Indjan Arua (A story of the Indian Arua) by Adolf (Dufi) Kock



CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 37 Birdie beater
 - 1 Pottery piece
 - 6 Dentist's story
 - 40 Stop
 - 11 State game
 - 42 Debussy work
 - 12 Western spread
 - 43 Brat's opposite
 - 13 Devoured
 - 44 Squalid
 - 14 Spare
 - 45 Slender
 - 15 "That's gross!"
 - 16 Really impress
 - 18 That fellow
 - 19 Make a bow in
 - 20 Wee bit
 - 21 Aussie runner
 - 22 "The Scarlet Letter" name
 - 24 Pharaoh symbols
 - 25 Freud's home
 - 27 Idiotic
 - 29 Carpentry tool
 - 32 Genesis name
 - 33 Bashful pal
 - 34 Historic time
 - 35 Director's cry
 - 36 Historic time
- DOWN**
- 1 Gumshoe
 - 2 Sub
 - 3 Nevertheless
 - 4 Numbered rd.
 - 5 Gives
 - 6 Set loose
 - 7 Not strict
 - 8 In agreement
 - 9 Pinch pennies
 - 10 Gumshoe
 - 17 Disney's Pumbaa, e.g.
 - 23 Rickety boat
 - 24 Target
 - 26 Indy auto
 - 27 Model stickers
 - 28 Throat danglers
 - 30 Made blank
 - 31 Almost never
 - 33 Super-market section
 - 39 Sleep site
 - 41 Hydro-carbon suffix

REMAP HAZEL
AROMA EXILE
WAVER LEGIT
ENAMEL
OLD PIN PEP
LOOSEN DAME
INVITED OVER
VEEP ROGERS
ERR JAM DYE
CALICO
AESOP NAVAL
LAURA OPERA
PREEN STREW



4-21

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

4-21 CRYPTOQUOTE

X J B C W R N N M C , B C W D L

T X H C X L D B N K T Y N J

W N F J N K U X L Q X T T A M X N L .

— L N D F W R N F M O E

Cryptoquote: NOTHING WILL TURN
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AND EFFECTIVELY THAN A DACHSHUND. —
QUEEN VICTORIA

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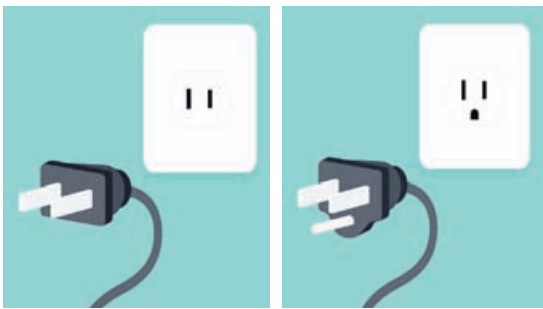
			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	22	CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	C	1
		OASIS OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	I	1
WED	23	FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
THU	24	NORWEGIAN GEM	08.00	20.00	C	1
FRI	25	NORWEGIAN GETAWAY	11.00	21.00	C	1
SUN	27	GRANDEUR OF THE SEAS	11.59	23.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	29	CARNIVAL HORIZON	08.00	22.00	B	1
		CELEBRITY REFLECTION	08.00	23.00	C	1
WED	30	FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.



The Oscars mandate voters watch all nominated movies, set new rules for AI and refugee filmmakers



Oscar statuettes appear backstage at the Oscars in Los Angeles on Feb. 26, 2017.

Associated Press

By JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Oscar voters will no longer be able to skip watching some of the nominated films.

The Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences on Monday announced that members will from now on be required to watch all nominated films in each category to be eligible to vote in the final round of Oscar voting. Up until now, Oscar voters had only been encouraged to watch the nominees, and vote in categories they felt qualified in.

But in recent years, what films get watched by academy members has been increasingly seen as a significant factor in what wins. At the same time, the publication of anonymous Oscar ballots has often featured members confessing that they didn't get around to watching some notable films or not finishing lengthier nominees.

On Monday, the academy also put forth a handful of new regulations on issues including AI, refugee filmmakers and the newly launched casting category. In the best international film category, the academy will now allow filmmakers with refugee or asylum status to be represented by a country not their own. The rule change keeps in place the broad apparatus of how international nominees are submitted through countries, but it tweaks eligibility.

The regulation now reads: "The submitting country must confirm that creative control of the film was largely in the hands of citizens, residents, or individuals with refugee or asylum status in the submitting country."

Critics have long called on changes to the nominating process for best international film because it leaves the submission process in the hands of governments, not the academy. That's left dissident filmmakers working under authoritarian or undemocratic regimes with limited pathways to reaching the Oscars.

Last year, for instance, the Iranian filmmaker Mohammad Rasoulof fled Iran before he was to be flogged and imprisoned for eight

years in order to release his film "The Seed of the Sacred Fig." Germany, where Rasoulof settled, submitted it for the Oscars and it was nominated. But other filmmakers, including Rasoulof's friend and countryman Jafar Panahi, have released films without a mechanism for submission. The rule change notably won't alter the Oscar prospects for filmmakers who haven't fled their home countries or change anything for films passed over by their nation's selection committees.

The academy also ruled that the use of generative artificial intelligence tools "neither help nor harm the chances of a nomination." How significantly AI is used in filmmaking has, as in other industries, been a much-debated topic in Hollywood. In this year's Oscar race, Brady Corbet's "The Brutalist" was a subject of some controversy after its editor said that AI had been used to enhance the Hungarian dialogue of stars Adrien Brody (who ultimately won best actor) and Felicity Jones (who was nominated for best supporting actress).

"The academy and each branch will judge the achievement, taking into account the degree to which a human was at the heart of the creative authorship when choosing

which movie to award," the academy said Monday.

The film academy also set down some rules for its new achievement in casting Oscar. After a preliminary round of voting to determine a shortlist of 10 films, members of the casting branch will be invited to a "bake-off" presentation from the shortlisted films, including a Q&A with nominees.

Earlier in April, the academy announced a new category for stunt design, but that award won't begin until the 2028 Oscars.

Next year's Academy Awards will be held March 15, 2026, with Conan O'Brien returning to host the ABC telecast. □

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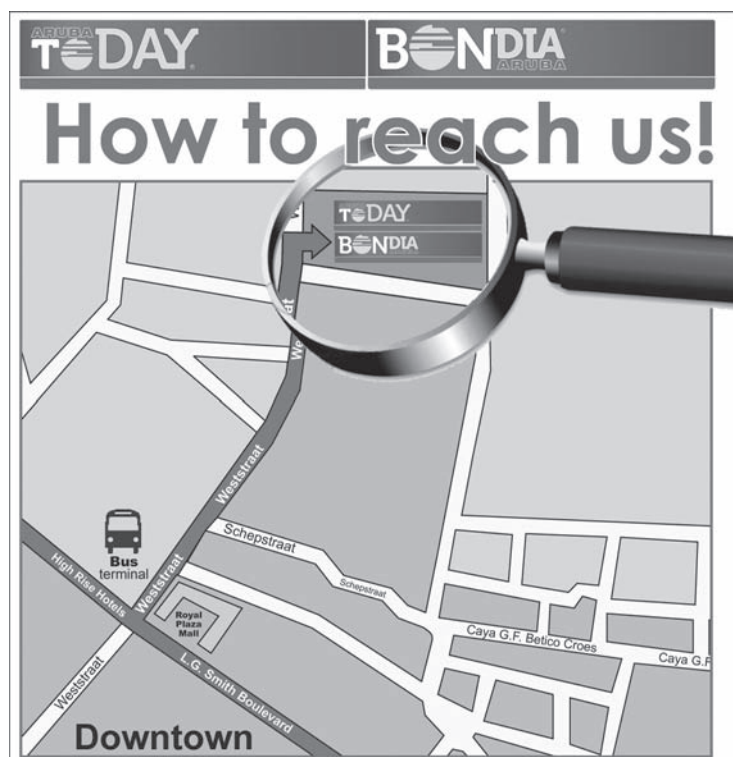
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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

'The runners are coming': Lokedi breaks Boston Marathon course record, John Korir takes men's race

By **JIMMY GOLEN**

AP Sports Writer

BOSTON (AP) — A rider dressed as Paul Revere eased his horse up to the Boston Marathon finish line and proclaimed, "The runners are coming."

And down Boylston Street they came.

In record time. With a historic family first. And even "The Star-Spangled Banner" got some air time as the race and the region commemorated the 250th anniversary of the first shots fired in the American Revolution.

Sharon Lokedi of Kenya broke the Boston Marathon course record by more than 2 1/2 minutes on Monday, outkicking two-time defending champion Hellen Obiri a year after losing to her in one of the closest finishes in race history.

Fellow Kenyan John Korir recovered from a starting line fall to join his brother as a race champion — the first relatives to win the world's oldest and most prestigious annual marathon in a history that dates to 1897.

On a day that also marked the 50th anniversary of Bob Hall's pioneering wheelchair race, Marcel Hug of Switzerland claimed his eighth victory and Susannah Scaroni of the United States took the women's title.

"I always feel emotional when the national anthem is played," said Scaroni, who



Boston Marathon winner John Korir, of Kenya, right, and women's division winner Sharon Lokedi, of Kenya, celebrate after the race, Monday, April 21, 2025, in Boston.

won in 2023 but couldn't defend her title last year because of an injury. "And to have ours played on this amazing, historic anniversary gives me goosebumps."

Lokedi finished in 2 hours, 17 minutes, 22 seconds to claim the \$150,000 first prize and another \$50,000 bonus for breaking the course record of 2:19:59 set by Buzunesh Deba in 2014. A year after sprinting to an 8 second victory, Obiri was 19 seconds back in her attempt to become the first woman to win three straight since Fatuma Roba in 1999.

"Where she passed me last year, I passed her this year,"

Lokedi said with a laugh. "I didn't even believe. I kept looking back and thinking, 'Where is she?' I'm just so grateful to her for pushing me all the way through."

Six months after winning on Chicago's flatter course, Korir finished in 2:04:45 — the second-fastest winning time in Boston history as the runners took advantage of perfect marathon weather to conquer the 26.2 miles (42.2 kilometers) from Hopkinton to Boston's Copley Square.

And he did it despite getting tripped up from behind near the start and falling. He got up to rejoin the lead pack at the rear.

"What came to my mind was should I stay down, or should I (get) up and go?" he said. "Something told me to (get) up and go, and that everything will be OK. ... And everything went away."

Korir's race bib fell off and he tucked it into his running tights, pulling it out as he sprinted to the finish line. Waiting to congratulate him: 2012 Boston winner Wesley Korir, his older brother.

Although the race has been won by a pair of unrelated John Kelleys and two different Robert Cheruiyots, the Korirs are the first brothers to have won.

"He explained to be tough

and believe in yourself," said John Korir, who finished fourth and ninth in his two previous Boston attempts. "So I believed in myself and I followed his advice."

Conner Mantz of Provo, Utah, finished fourth after losing a three-way sprint to the finish with Alphonse Felix Simbu of Tanzania, who finished second, and Cybrian Kotut of Kenya, who was third.

Yalemzerf Yehualaw of Ethiopia was third in the women's race. Jess McClain of Phoenix was the top American, in seventh place; 2018 winner Des Linden, who had announced she would retire from competitive running, won the masters division and was 17th overall.

When she crossed the finish line, the other American women bowed to her in tribute.

"I had those folks in front of me who paved the way, and I looked up to them. And they always made me feel like I belonged, made me feel like my dreams are valid, helped me along the way," Linden said. "So I've always tried to do that for the folks in this sport as well."

A field of 30,000 left Hopkinton on Monday morning for Boston's Back Bay, where riders in Revolutionary War garb — accompanied by a fife and drum playing "Yankee Doodle" — rode down Boylston Street in a reenactment of Paul Revere's ride. □

Associated Press



The NCAA logo is displayed at center court at The Consol Energy Center in Pittsburgh, March 18, 2015.

By **EDDIE PELLIS**

AP National Writer

The NCAA passed rules Monday that would upend decades of precedent by allowing colleges to pay their athletes per terms of

a multibillion-dollar lawsuit settlement expected to go into effect this summer.

The nine proposals passed by the NCAA board were largely expected but still mark a defining day in the

NCAA passes series of rules that sets table for schools to pay players directly

history of college sports. An athlete's ability to be paid directly by his or her university is on track to be enshrined in a rulebook that has forbidden that kind of relationship for decades.

For the NCAA rules to officially go into effect, the changes prescribed by the House settlement still have to be granted final approval by a federal judge, whose hearing earlier this month led to questions about potential tweaks before the new guidelines are supposed to go into play on July 1.

The changes will eliminate

around 150 rules and alter many others in the NCAA's sprawling rulebook. They essentially codify measures set up by the settlement, including:

—Modifying bylaws to allow schools to pay the athletes directly.

—Eliminating scholarship limits for teams, while also setting roster limits that are designed to replace the scholarship caps. Some details of the roster limits, which were a key sticking point in the April 7 hearing, will be finalized later.

—Establishing annual report-

ing requirements for schools that pay athletes; a payment pool is set to be approximately \$20.5 million for the biggest schools beginning next academic year.

—Setting up a clearinghouse for all name, image and likeness (NIL) deals that come from third parties and are worth \$600 or more.

—Granting authority to an enforcement body being developed by the conferences named as defendants in the lawsuit to enforce the new rules passed to implement terms of the settlement. □

Canadian hockey fans conflicted over traveling to U.S. to see their teams in NHL playoffs

TORONTO (AP) — Jack Gurevitch is a Montreal Canadiens superfan and a proud Canadian who says he is upset by President Donald Trump's tariff plans and threats to annex Canada. Still, he says he won't let the political situation influence whether he travels to U.S. cities to support his team in the playoffs.

Not everyone in his family agrees.

"In anticipation of this call, I shared with my sister my opinion, and she went, 'Absolutely not. Do not go. Do not go into the United States during this time. It's not be-

ing patriotic. It's not being a good Canadian,'" Gurevitch told the Canadian Press. "I just kind of disagree with her." The latter half of the NHL season saw scattered booing during "The Star-Spangled Banner" at games in Canada amid Trump's threat of tariffs and his comments about turning its northern neighbor into a 51st state. It has led to resentment and anger, even clouding Wayne Gretzky's legacy for some fans given his ties to Trump.

Five Canadian teams — Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Edmonton — have made the NHL playoffs this year and the Canadiens opened the postseason Monday night against the Capitals in Washington. Gurevitch said he often

travels to the U.S. to watch hockey or baseball, and while it's still just the start of the playoffs, he says he may travel south to cheer in person if he's able.

"I'd love the experience of going into Washington and chatting with the fans there and just building that bond and feeding off it and having pleasant banter. It's fun. That's what it's all about — connecting with people and enjoying the sport," Gurevitch said.

Sunil Peetush, another Canadiens' devotee who has already been to the U.S. this year to see games, has been having second thoughts about American travel after his family's recent cruise that departed New Jersey last month.



The Toronto Maple Leafs stand during the Canadian national anthem before first period NHL playoff action against the Ottawa Senators, in Toronto on Sunday April 20, 2025.

Associated Press

"We just didn't feel right as Canadians. We felt like we were betraying our country," Peetush said, noting that going to Washington would feel even worse since it is the

center of U.S. government. "We have a cruise booked in August and it's going to Alaska, and we haven't really decided whether we're going to do it or not." □

Simone Biles, Mondo Duplantis and Real Madrid win Laureus sports awards



Simone Biles celebrates her Laureus World Sportswoman of the Year award, during the 2025 Laureus World Sports Awards ceremony in Madrid, Spain, Monday, April 21, 2025.

Associated Press

MADRID (AP) — Simone Biles and Mondo Duplantis were named sportswoman and sportsman of the year at the Laureus world sports awards on Monday.

The American gymnast won three gold medals and a silver at the Paris Olympics, while the Swedish pole vaulter won a second Olympic gold medal and raised his own world record two times. Real Madrid, the Champions League and La Liga winner last season, was the world team of the year, while young Barcelona forward Lamine Yamal won the world breakthrough player award.

Rafael Nadal received the sporting icon award, and American surfer Kelly Slater got the lifetime achievement award. □



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Start this year's vacation with this amazing experience in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort

Water's Edge Restaurant is a jewel many had the pleasure to find!

Palm Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp. You can also opt for a classic

French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.



Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.

Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000 / ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website **watersedge-aruba.com**

